

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 MEDELL 00019 162206Z

20

ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20

USIA-15 AID-20 PC-04 DRC-01 OMB-01 /124 W

----- 121148

R 161925Z JAN 74

FM AMCONSUL MEDELLIN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 724

INFO AMEMBASSY BOGOTA

AMCONSUL CALI

UNCLAS MEDELLIN 0019

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT

SUBJ: LIBERAL SPLIT IN ANTIOQUIA FORMALIZED

REF: MED. A-30 AND PREVIOUS

1. DISCUSSIONS BETWEEN THE RIVAL ANTIOQUIAN LIBERAL FACTIONS COLLAPSED THIS WEEK AMID PUBLIC DENUNCIATIONS AND MUTUAL RECRIMINATIONS. THE DIVISION WAS ALONG LINES PREVIOUSLY REPORTED.
2. THE TRADITIONAL PARTY LEADERS, IN OPPOSITION TO THE CURRENT ANTIOQUIAN LIBERAL DIRECTORATE, ANNOUNCED THE FORMATION OF A SEPARATE LIBERAL MOVEMENT--LIBERAL ANTIOQUIA IN MARCH (ALM)--AND BEGAN ORGANIZING ITS OWN CAMPAIGN APPARATUS. THE GROUP HAS CONVOKED A SEPARATE LIBERAL CONVENTION TO BE HELD IN MARCH AT WHICH CANDIDATES FOR CONGRESSIONAL, ASSEMBLY AND MUNICIPAL COUNCILS WILL BE SELECTED.
3. THE BOGOTA LIBERAL DAILIES, EL TIEMPO AND EL ESPECTADOR, GAVE SYMPATHETIC COVERAGE TO THE FORMATION OF THE NEW GROUP. MEDELLIN'S CONSERVATIVE EL COLOMBIANO REJOICED AND LIBERAL EL CORREO LAMENTED.

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4. REPRESENTATIVES OF BOTH FACTIONS ARE REPORTEDLY MEETING

JANUARY 16 WITH NATIONAL LIBERAL PARTY LEADER JULIO CESAR  
TURBAY, BUT THE DIVISION IS NOW IRRECONCILABLE.

5. DISSIDENT LIBERAL ELECTORAL LISTS HAVE FARED POORLY IN  
ANTIOQUIA IN RECENT YEARS, ACHIEVING 19.7 PERCENT OF THE LIBERAL  
VOTE IN 1970 AND 14.6 PERCENT IN 1972. HOWEVER, THE MRL (LOPEZ)  
MOVEMENT IN ITS 1960-66 HEDAY RECEIVED FROM 30-42 PERCENT  
OF THE LIBERAL VOTE IN COMPETITION WITH OFFICIAL LIBERAL LISTS.  
THE ALM GROUP APPEARS SUBSTANTIALLY MORE POWERFUL THAN RECENT  
DISSIDENT GROUPS BUT NOT AS COHESIVE AS THE MID-1960'S MRL.  
THE PROBABLE EFFECT OF THE SPLIT ON THE CANDIDACY OF LOPEZ,  
WHOM BOTH GROUPS SUPPORT, IS DISCUSSED IN THE REFERENCE.  
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## Message Attributes

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**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
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